

Application No.: 10/017,661Docket No.: V9661.0024REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Claims 1 to 10 are in the case. Claims 8 and 10 were amended. Claims 4 - 6 were indicated as allowable. The Examiner is hereby respectfully requested to reconsider the subject application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-3 and 7-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable by Higashi et al. (U.S. 6,014,322) for reasons set forth on pages 2 and 3 of the Office action.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention as recited in independent claims 1 and 7 is neither disclosed by nor obvious over Higashi. Among other claim features, Higashi does not disclose a second light emitting diode coupled in parallel to the inductor and the first light emitting diode as recited in the claimed invention. In Higashi, diode 18 is not a light emitting diode. Nor is diode 18 in Higashi coupled in parallel to the inductor and the first light emitting diode. Therefore, the present invention as recited in independent claims 1 and 7 is not disclosed by Higashi.

The purpose of Higashi is to provide a power supply by itself, rather than providing a light emitter diode operation as the claimed invention. In Higashi, the photocoupler (23) is coupled to many components, including R1, zenor diode 24, R2, R3, D25 and the voltage control circuit as shown in Figures 1 to 4. One skilled art will appreciate that these components are essential to operate a PWN control circuit and the whole power supply. Therefore, one skilled in the art would not be motivated to look to Higashi when contemplating a light emitter diode operation as recited in the claimed invention. Accordingly the claimed invention is not obvious over Higashi.

In view of the above, the present invention as recited independent claims 1 and 7, as well as dependent claims 2 and 3, is believed to patentably distinguish over Higashi.

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Claims 8 and 10 as amended recites that power delivered by the secondary winding is substantially consumed by the light emitting diodes. Higashi is silent about this. Moreover, while the purpose of the claimed invention is to deliver most of its power to the light emitting diodes, Higashi discloses a power supply only. Therefore, one skilled in the art would not be motivated to look to Higashi when contemplating a light emitter diode operation as recited in the claimed invention. Accordingly, the present invention as recited independent claims 8 and 10, as well as dependent claim 9, is believed to patentably distinguish over Higashi.

Applicants have shown that all pending claims 1 to 10 are allowable over the cited art and hereby respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-3 and 7-10 be withdrawn. Each of the presently pending claims 1 to 10 in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

No fee is believed to be due for this Amendment. Should any fees be required, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2215.

Respectfully submitted,

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